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SEP 30 1939

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine

Forest Insect Laboratory,
Fort Collins, Colorado
September 28, 1939.

MEMORANDUM ON INSECT CONDITIONS
WASATCH NATIONAL FOREST, UTAH

At the request of the Region Four office of the Forest Service the period of September 22 to 24, 1939, inclusive, was spent on an examination of the Black Hills beetle infestation in lodgepole pine on the Wasatch National Forest, Utah. Assistant Supervisor Mathews and Mr. Stewart were with the writer on the entire trip and District Ranger Donald Cox joined us the last day.

The areas examined and the results of this examination are tabulated below:

Area	Acres examined	New attacks	Red tops
Soapstone utility area	12	24	23
Great Lakes Timber Co. (Broadhead road)	48	76	29
Upper Provo River near Trail Lake	40	53	43
Little East Fork Blacksfork Ranger District	92	218	111

These figures for infested trees per acre are no doubt rather high for an attempt was made to look over the "hot spots" but in all cases it shows that there is a sufficiently heavy infestation in each of the areas to warrant an extensive survey. The Little East Fork

area is the largest of the four examined. It is estimated that there are about 174 sections which should be covered by an extensive survey in order to find out the extent and intensity of the infestation. This will require about 100 man days. There are about 20 sections when the infestation appears so heavy that 100 percent spotting preparatory to treating could be started immediately if control work is done.

The other three areas examined are much smaller and would require a relatively small sum for an extensive survey.

Survey work and spotting will be difficult as many of the newly infested trees show no or very small pitch tubes and can be picked up only by the ring of boring dust around their bases. Although many over-mature and decadent trees are being attacked the majority of the trees attacked were between 8 and 14 inches dbh. Quite a few one-side attacks were observed but they appeared to be no more numerous than usual for a lodgepole pine infestation; the majority of the attacks could be called heavy although as a rule they did not extend up the tree more than a third the length of the bole.

In summary, the Black Hills beetle infestation in lodgepole pine on the Wasatch in general appears to be in an epidemic state and the sooner all the outbreak areas can be cleaned up the better the chance of preventing serious and extensive losses of lodgepole pine on the forest.

The hospitality shown and the assistance given the writer by all members of the Forest with whom he came in contact are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald De Leon, Associate Entomologist,
Forest Insect Investigations.

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